

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 09/829,991
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q63815

2. Claims 13-16, 18, 22 and 23 stand rejected as allegedly reciting method steps that are well known in the art. Claims 13-16, 18, 22 and 23 depend from claim 9. Since the Applicant has overcome the double patenting rejection of claim 9, and there are no other pending art-based rejections against claims 13-16, 18, 22 and 23, Applicant submits that claims 13-16, 18, 22 and 23 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 9.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

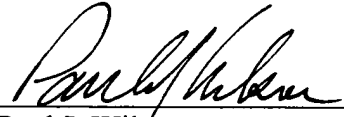
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Respectfully submitted,


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